

Whitman Announces \$2 Million Pilot Project to Train New Workers, Clean Up Brownfield Sites

Administrator Christie Whitman today announced that EPA will provide \$2 million in financial assistance to provide training for residents in communities impacted by brownfields. The Agency expects to select up to 10 pilot projects by December, 2001.

“We are not only cleaning up and redeveloping hazardous sites, but training new workers in the fight to make our communities cleaner and safer,” Whitman said.

The pilot project, called the Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilots, will facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites contaminated with hazardous substances and will also prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field. The pilot projects must prepare trainees in activities that can be usefully applied to a cleanup employing an alternative or innovative treatment technology.

“The Bush Administration has made the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields a top environmental goal,” Whitman said. “This is a perfect example of the government working with local communities to ensure a safer, cleaner future for our children.”

Each selected pilot will receive up to \$200,000 over two years. The deadline for submitting proposals for the pilots is October 19. These funds will be used to build partnerships between community groups, job training organizations, employers, investors, lenders, developers and other affected parties to provide training for residents in communities impacted by brownfields. For more information, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

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